

Proceeding: **IN THE MATTER OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICES AND SPE** Record 1 of 1

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Dear FCC members,

Title IV of the ADA is applicable to any wire or radio communication service that enables persons with hearing or speech disabilities to engage in communication with persons without such disabilities and is not limited to services using TTYS.

Speech to Speech (STS) services fall within the scope of the ADA's definition of "telecommunications relay services" as a telephone transmission service that enables an individual who has a speech disability to communicate by wire or radio with a hearing individual in a manner that is functionally equivalent to the ability of a person who does not have a speech disability to communicate using voice communication services by wire or radio.

I support the FCC's tentative conclusion that STS be required nationally; cost should not prevent establishing a national requirement. As a special education teacher for 35 years, and a friend of Dr. Segalman, I have had the opportunity use STS. In my opinion, it provides a right to communication for speech disabled persons that is analogous to the services now being offered to the deaf at public expense. Surely speech disabled folk are no less entitled to the right to communicate by telephone.

Sincerely,

Sally F Davis